

Montague Energy Committee

Town Hall, 2nd Floor Meeting Room, 7-8:30M

Present: Chris Mason, Sally Pick, Jason Burbank, Ariel Elan, Pam Hanold, Tim Van Egmond. **Guests:** Brian Camden, Turners Falls Airport Commission.

Designate facilitator and scribe: Chris facilitator; Sally scribe.

Approved minutes from 2/5/19 meeting.

Airport PV Array

Brian Camden trying to get airport off tax roll. Wants to be self-sustaining with electricity.

- Mass Aeronautics proposing to fund 100% of cost of a 25 kW solar PV array that would cover all of airport's electric use. System would belong to airport, and they'll collect SMART funds.
- Airport will be able to get off tax roll.
- Looking into battery storage next year.
- Requesting a letter of support from MEC, addressed to Turners Falls Airport Commission: Email to: airport@montague-ma.gov

Motion approved that committee empowers Chris to write a letter on behalf of the energy committee to the Turners Falls Airport Commission that wholeheartedly supports a solar PV array being installed at this airport.

DPW Building: tabled.

Outdoor lighting upgrades to LED

- Request for quotes (RFQ) for META study may have been sent out by Eileen Tela of Turners Falls Fire District.

Heating system options for Sheffield/Hillcrest school buildings: tabled.

Report on CIC meeting if there was one since last meeting: tabled.

Hybrid police cruiser

Sally has sent information on the 2020 Hybrid Ford Interceptor cruiser to police chief, Chris Williams, and connected him with Steve Russell at DOER regarding 80% subsidies available for the difference in costs between a hybrid and an internal combustion engine model. The difference in cost is around \$3,530.

EV public charger Mass EVIP grants

Eversource reached out to Steve Ellis about installing EV chargers in town. Chris has been in touch with Tim Simmons at Eversource. Eversource will pay per account for up to 5 EV chargers, at no cost to environmental justice areas (Turners and Millers Falls).

- Energy committee will help facilitate installation of chargers.
- Eversource requires data on use for 5 years. Via Wi-Fi. Extra cost to town.
- Funds available on first come, first served basis.

Follow-up steps:

- Conversation with Walter, downtown business group, Michael Nelson to help identify where to locate chargers.
 - First thoughts: town-owned parking lots such as Discovery Center parking lot and lot next Rendezvous, near apartment buildings.
- Research possible charging companies.
- Review Eversource agreement: includes maintenance of chargers, other ongoing costs?
- Identify ongoing (insurance, data capturing) & start-up costs (e.g. signage).
- Research # of EVs in town, by village, focusing on Turners & Millers Falls.

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Net zero stretch code; voting on new IECC codes for 2021 (March 29 deadline to register to vote for IECC codes)

There have been minimal improvements in International Energy Conservation Code in energy efficiency in the last several votes.

- Chris will ask select board if willing to register to vote for IECC new codes.

Inviting parties in to have conversation about engaging landlords in energy efficiency, role of committee: tabled.

Town buildings and energy infrastructure, including Sally's list of town energy Projects: tabled.

Recommending a lifecycle analysis policy and solar-ready roofs for new Buildings: tabled.

Discuss future directions, priorities of committee, building membership: tabled.

Plan agenda for next meeting

Other topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Votes may be taken

Action items:

- Chris will ask select board about registering to vote for IECC new codes.
- Sally will ask Wendy when Chris can get onto select board meeting agenda 3/11 or 3/18 to talk about registering to vote on IECC code changes.
- Sally will start to investigate EV charging stations.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 6:30pm.